CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for exact arrival departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for

matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

13. (Original) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport

selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

19. (Withdrawn) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

20. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

21. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

22. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

23. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

24. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

25. (Original) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

30. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

31. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

32. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

33. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

34. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

35. (Withdrawn) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

45. (Original) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport

selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

47. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

48. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

49. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

50. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

51. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

52. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

53. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

54. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

55. (Withdrawn) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare

limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

56. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

57. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

58. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

59. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

60. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

61. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

62. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

63. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

64. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

65. (Cancelled) A method of creating a database to be used in travel product searches, comprising:

inputting information concerning a plurality of travel departure and arrival airports into an information storage and retrieval system for storing, referencing and retrieving the travel departure and arrival airport information; and

inputting information concerning a plurality of travel departure and arrival geography ranges into said information storage and retrieval system for storing, referencing and retrieving the travel departure and arrival geography information.

66. (Cancelled) A method for providing online travel reservation services, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a user selectable first date range corresponding to an outbound flight from a first geographic location and a user selectable second date range corresponding to an inbound flight from a second geographic location, wherein each of the first and second date ranges are selectable from one or more calendar days and wherein at least one of the first or second date ranges comprising more than one calendar day; and

generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules each comprising an outbound flight corresponding to a selected first date range and an inbound flight corresponding to a selected second date range.

67. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, wherein the step of generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules includes generating one or more user selectable combinations of travel schedules based on one or more user selected date ranges and querying one or more travel databases to determine the availability of the one or more user selectable combinations of travel schedules.

68. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, further comprising presenting the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules to the user.

69. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, further comprising providing the user the ability to reserve a travel schedule from the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules.

70. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, wherein a user selectable date range is one or more dates for departure.

71. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, wherein a user selectable date range is one or more dates for arrival.

72. (Cancelled) The method of claim 66, wherein a user selectable date range having more than one calendar day is selected by selecting an earliest date and a latest date.

73. (Cancelled) The method of claim 72, wherein selecting an earliest date and a latest date is performed by clicking on a graphical calendar.

74. (Cancelled) A method for providing online travel reservation services, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a user selectable first date range corresponding to an outbound flight from a first geographic location and a user selectable second date range corresponding to an inbound flight from a second geographic location, wherein each of the first and second date ranges are selectable from one or more calendar days;

providing a user selectable length of stay; and

generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules comprising an outbound flight and an inbound flight scheduled between selected first and second date ranges, wherein the length of time between the outbound and inbound flights of each of the one or more travel schedules does not exceed a selected length of stay.

75. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules includes generating one or more user selectable combinations of travel schedules based on one or more user selected date ranges a selected length of stay and querying one or more travel databases to determine the availability of the one or more user selectable combinations of travel schedules.

76. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, further comprising presenting the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules to the user.

77. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, further comprising providing the user the ability to reserve at least one travel schedule from the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules.

78. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, wherein a user selectable date range is one or more dates for departure.

79. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, wherein a user selectable date range is one or more dates for arrival.

80. (Cancelled) The method of claim 74, wherein a user selectable date range having more than one calendar day is selected by selecting an earliest date and a latest date.

81. (Cancelled) The method of claim 80, wherein selecting an earliest date and a latest date is performed by clicking on a graphical calendar.

82. (Cancelled) An online travel reservation system, said system comprising:

a user interface that allows a user to select a first date range corresponding to an outbound flight from a first geographic location and a second date range corresponding to an inbound flight from a second geographic location, wherein each of the first and second date ranges are selectable from one or more calendar days and wherein at least one of the first or second date ranges comprises more than one calendar day; and

a database coupled to the user interface and configured to store one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules each comprising an outbound flight corresponding to a selected first date range and an inbound flight corresponding to a selected second date range.

83. (Cancelled) The system of claim 82, wherein the system is coupled to one or more travel databases having information about the availability of one or more combinations of travel schedules.

84. (Cancelled) The system of claim 82, wherein the user interface includes a graphical depiction of a calendar having dates, wherein a date range is selected by clicking on one or more dates of the calendar.

85. (Cancelled) The system of claim 82, wherein a date range having more than one calendar day is selected by selecting an earliest date and a latest date.

86. (Cancelled) A method for providing online travel reservation services, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a user selectable geographic region,

providing a user selectable first date corresponding to an outbound flight from a first geographic location and a user selectable second date corresponding to an inbound flight from a second geographic location, wherein at least one of the first and second geographic locations is a user selected geographic region;

generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules comprising an outbound flight and an inbound flight scheduled between selected first and second dates and first and second locations.

87. (Cancelled) The method of claim 86, wherein the step of generating one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules includes generating one or

more user selectable combinations of travel schedules based on user selected dates and user selected geographic locations and querying one or more travel databases to determine the availability of the one or more user selectable combinations of travel schedules.

88. (Cancelled) The method of claim 86, further comprising presenting the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules to the user.

89. (Cancelled) The method of claim 86, further comprising providing the user the ability to reserve a travel schedule from the one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules.

90. (Cancelled) The method of claim 86, wherein a user selected geographic region includes one or more airports.

91. (Cancelled) The method of claim 86, wherein a user selected geographic region is established by selecting a particular country.

92. (Cancelled) An online travel reservation system, said system comprising:

a user interface that allows a user to select a geographic region, a first date corresponding to an outbound flight from a first geographic location, and a second date

corresponding to an inbound flight from a second geographic location, wherein at least one of the first and second geographic locations is a user selected geographic region;

a database coupled with the user interface and configured to store one or more user selectable combinations of available travel schedules comprising an outbound flight and an inbound flight scheduled between selected first and second dates and first and second locations.

93. (Cancelled) The system of claim 92, wherein the system is coupled to one or more travel databases that provide information on the availability of one or more combinations of travel schedules.

94. (Cancelled) The system of claim 92, wherein a geographic region includes one or more airports.